

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Patent Office for the careful attention accorded this application and respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the Amendment above and remarks set forth below.

In supplemental response to the Office Action dated May 28, 2003, and at the request of the Examiner, Applicants have amended Claims 1, 20, 29, 31, 50 and 54 in order to avoid any basis for rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112. This supplemental amendment to the claims incorporates new changes suggested by the Examiner, as well as the amendments set forth in the Response to Office Action filed on November 28, 2003.

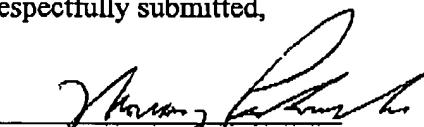
In order to avoid any future basis for rejection of the amended Claims under the judicially-created obviousness-type double-patent rejection (based on the claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,283,375, 6,607,133 and 6,637,659) Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer and Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b), for consideration and entry by the Examiner.

In view, therefore, of the Amendment and remarks set forth above, the present invention defined by amended Claims is firmly believed to be neither anticipated by, nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art of record, and that the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies to Deposit Account 16-1340. Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

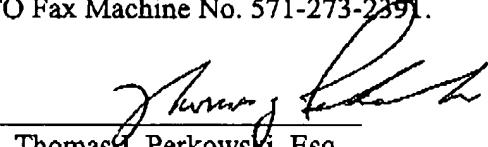
Dated: February 11, 2004



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE SERVICE
UNDER 37 CFR 1.06(d)

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Thomas J. Perkowski, Esq.
Date: February 11, 2004